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Preface [to *Jesuit Art in North American Collections*]

Curtis Carter

Marquette University, curtis.carter@marquette.edu

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PREFACE

St. Ignatius Loyola (1491-1556), whose vision led to the founding of the Society of Jesus in 1540, has contributed substantially to the cultures of West and East through educational leadership and the artistic patronage of his followers. Nowhere is Jesuit influence more evident than in the magnificent churches and arts of Europe and other lands where Jesuit missionary efforts were undertaken. It is fitting that these achievements be celebrated worldwide during the 500th year of St. Ignatius' birth, which coincides with the 450th anniversary of the Society. As a part of the official Inaugural Year Celebration, this exhibition honors Reverend Albert J. DiUlio S.J., president of Marquette University.

In conjunction with this worldwide celebration, the Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Museum of Art is mounting the exhibition, "Jesuit Art in North American Collections." The exhibition includes a selection of paintings, drawings, prints, sculpture, liturgical objects, books, and maps. These are intended to give an overview of Jesuit influence on the visual arts. While most of the objects are European, the exhibition also includes paintings, maps, and other artifacts from the Far East.

Initially, the idea for the exhibition was proposed by Ross Fox, who served as curator from 1986 to 1987. We acknowledge with appreciation the use of preliminary research materials assembled by Mr. Fox. The curators responsible for organizing the exhibition are Dr. Jane ten Brink Goldsmith, at the Haggerty Museum of Art, and Dr. J. Patrice Marandel, at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Both have contributed essays and entries to this catalogue. J. Patrick Donnelly, S.J., professor of history at Marquette University, has contributed an essay on the Jesuit relationship to the fine arts from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century, and Dr. J. B. Harley, director of the Office for Map History, American Geographical Society Collection, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, has contributed an essay on Jesuit maps, which record Jesuit missionary activities and religious strategies.

This is the first exhibition on Jesuit art in North America. It offers a rare opportunity for both the general public and scholars to gain a better understanding of the Jesuit contribution to the visual arts. While much has been written on Jesuit iconography, Jesuit patronage, Jesuit artists, and Jesuit emblem literature, there exists no publication which brings all these aspects of Jesuit influence together. It is hoped that by bringing together paintings, prints, drawings, sculpture, emblem books, and maps, this exhibition will offer new insights on some of the more important contributions of the Jesuits to the cultures of both East and West.

Curtis L. Carter
Director

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